

FEDERAL CIVIL DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

September 24, 1957

Dear Mr. Secretary:

When the Director of the Bureau of the Budget wrote to you a few days ago about budget estimates for financing non-military defense activities for Fiscal Year 1959, he indicated that the Federal Civil Defense Administration would be furnishing you with assistance in the development of a budgetary request to cover civil defense functions.

I have asked members of my staff, especially my Budget Officer, to work with your staff in every way possible. They are prepared to give assistance on specific program items. However, I thought you might want to have a general over-all picture of the way in which we are approaching Fiscal Year 1959.

In addition to the over-all FCDA planning assumptions, we have made some specific assumptions for Fiscal Year 1959. Both of these are attached. Based on these we are planning to undertake a coordinated, attainable, practical and effective civil defense program for Fiscal Year 1959. We recognize that the government is now engaged in many worthwhile activities in preparation for an emergency, and that there are other worthwhile activities which might be added. However, it is our feeling that worthwhileness in an activity is not automatic justification for either continuance or adoption. Thus the FCDA itself plans to engage in a rather small number of major programs in Fiscal Year 1959; to concentrate effort to make recognizable progress in these few programs; and to curtail activities that do not contribute to major program efforts.

We are placing major effort behind two specific groups of programs. The first of these groups has as its objective the strengthening of government in order to increase our capacity to survive as a free, independent and vigorous nation. These are the programs contributing to "Government in Emergency."

The other of these program groups has as its objective minimizing the radiological effects of an attack on people, animals, and crops. These are the programs contributing to an effective "Radiological Defense."

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So much can be done in improving our radiological defense that I believe you will want to consider this area of activity both in its relation to your regular programs and in connection with the protection of your personnel and facilities against radiological effects.

Those activities related to "Government in Emergency" perhaps add a new aspect of non-military defense to the generally recognized need for emergency operational capability. We need to be concerned equally with the ability of governments to survive and their ability to serve in an emergency. So this group of programs includes both the requirement for continuity of government and the requirement of capacity for emergency operations.

A considerable amount of activity by the FCDA in Fiscal Year 1959 will be devoted to working with States and their political subdivisions on increasing their emergency operational capabilities. In addition to these broad program areas, a major effort will be directed to accumulation and analysis of data regarding amounts and locations of existing resources together with development of improved methods for their post-attack utilization with the following four program objectives:

- a. Establishment of lines of succession
- b. Preservation of vital records
- c. Establishment of emergency locations
- d. Utilization of manpower and resources

If we can show unity in our emphasis on non-military defense, it is my hope that all of us working with the Office of Defense Mobilization and the Bureau of the Budget will be able to provide over-all support for our estimates before the Congress.

Sincerely,

Leo A. Hoegh (signed)

Attachments